GODZILLA 2

Book version

By Finn Duffy and Tab Murphy

Godzilla is dead. After the military destroyed the creature in New York, the world's scientists begin to dissect it. Scientist Nick Tatopoulos is there. However, feeling guilty over his part in Godzilla's death, Nick promptly leaves. Sneaking past police barricades, Nick searches in the Manhattan underground. Looking where Godzilla had burrowed, he hopes to find some trace of the nuclear creature. To his surprise, he finds the last surviving baby Godzilla, weak from starvation. Nick runs back to the surface to visit a fish market, where he buys every last fish on display. Returning underground, Nick starts to feed the creature until voices in the distance catch their attention. Realizing the baby Godzilla will be destroyed if discovered, Nick uses the remaining fish to lure the young Godzilla to the surface. The pair try their best to avoid the military. However, eventually they attract their attention when the baby Godzilla snaps at a homeless person who screams. Realizing the situation, Nick forces the young Godzilla into the water. The baby Godzilla, which had bonded with Nick, attempts to return to him but Nick starts throwing rocks to chase it away. This works as it swims away.

Two years later a series of strange events begin to occur. A cruise ship is found adrift near Australia, with all passengers gone. A village on Fiji is decimated, it's population completely whipped out without a trace. An Indonesian jet is sliced in half, with no bodies found at the crash site. To address this, a global task force is created with General Hicks leading it.

One of their first assignments is to investigate a strange, giant egg sighted in New England. However, upon arriving the egg has already hatched while the town is destroyed, with its inhabitants all gone. With no leads, the task force assumes the Godzilla species is back and on the rampage. Hicks begins to recruit a special team for this assignment.

Meanwhile, Nick and Audrey have just gotten married in Vermont. The pair make their way to a waiting limo. As Nick gets in first, the door suddenly closes and locks before Audrey can get in. The limo then speeds away, as the driver turns to reveal himself as French agent Phillipe Roache. He apologies for interrupting their wedding as he hands Nick a folder about their assignment. Phillipe has been recruited by Hicks, with Nick also eyed for the team. Nick reluctantly agrees to join, although insists that Godzilla couldn't be responsible for these attacks. Phillipe plans to find out one way or another. Although if the culprit is Godzilla, he plans to destroy it.

With the team assembled, they begin their search. Australia, determined as the only landmass in the general vicinity of the incidents big enough to hide Godzilla, is their first stop. While in the outback, they come across biologist Anna Charlton. Anna is uncooperative, asking them to leave so they don't disturb her research. Convinced she's hiding something, Phillipe plants a tracking device on her jeep. While following the vehicle, the pair suddenly hear Godzilla's roar. Going on foot, they discover a full grown Godzilla alongside its young, each around 35 feet in height. The smallest of these young is being attacked by dingoes. The adult Godzilla is roaring at them, ready to advance which spooks the other young Godzilla. Stampeding toward Nick and Phillipe, the pair are narrowly rescued by Anna in her jeep.

Once to safety, they leave the jeep as Phillipe tries to radio an update to General Hicks. However, Anna destroys the radio. She explains she is devoted to protecting the Godzilla species and blames Nick for its almost extinction in 1998. Feeling he has no other choice, Nick reveals what happened two years ago when he saved the infant Godzilla. Phillipe feels betrayed at this news. He reminds them of the danger involved due to the speed at which they multiply. Phillipe will not back down from his mission to notify Hicks and eradicate the Godzillas. Desperate, Nick leaps in the jeep by himself and drives toward the big Godzilla. Seeing the jeep, Godzilla roars at it, shattering the windows in the process. Godzilla raises a foot to smash the vehicle but pauses after eyeing the inhabitant. Recognizing Nick from years ago, the giant creature tries to nuzzle with the scientist, as Phillipe and Anna watch on in astonishment.

Meanwhile, another giant egg is found in Sydney, Australia. Hicks mobilizes, while growing concerned that he still hasn't heard from Phillipe or Nick.

In the outback, the full grown Godzilla begins following Nick everywhere. It even tries to sleep near the scientist to watch over him. As a result, Anna now fully trusts Nick and shares her research. One startling discovery is that a full grown Godzilla can only reproduce once, and that the size of the brood is determined by where it gives birth. However, despite their efforts, they continue to have trouble convincing Phillipe that the species isn't dangerous. Phillipe's suspicion is aroused when they witness the creature sneak off for the North Coast. Jumping into the water, Nick becomes fearful that perhaps some of the attacks are the fault of Godzilla. That it is capturing humans and feeding them to his young. A blue flash of light appears as schools of tuna swim toward the surface. Exploding out of the water, the fish are tossed onto the nearby beach by Godzilla. His young emerge to begin to feast on them. Confident that Godzilla isn't the cause of the attacks, they now wonder what is.

On a hunch, the three visit the original Godzilla's birthplace. Now dubbed as Monster Island, the place is under constant guard from the United Nations. Sneaking by underwater, the three see a giant blue whale that is three times normal size. Once on the island they spy other mutated species. Eventually, they hear a strange buzzing sound and discover a swarm of mutated insects. To their horror, the swarm has human captives. When a human tries to escape, the three witness him being stung to death by the giant insects. The other survivors are then herded underground, where screams are heard before silence. Shortly afterwards, a mammoth insect, called the Queen Bitch, emerges from the underground lair. Feasting on one of her own kind, she then flies off. The trio realize that this mutated insect species is the cause of the recent disasters. They also suspect that Godzilla might be a natural predator to the insects, feeling the solution is to bring Godzilla back to its homeland. This is all interrupted when Phillipe admits he contacted Hicks about the Godzillas in the Outback. Feeling betrayed, Nick and Phillipe fight before Anna breaks it up telling them they need to leave to save Godzilla now.

By the time they make it back, most of the young Godzillas have been killed. The area is ravaged from air and ground strikes from the military. The three arrive just as the task force is advancing on the giant Godzilla and one last baby, the runt who earlier was attacked by dingoes. Nick rushes himself into harm's way, causing Hicks to order a cease-fire. Nick apologies, tears in his eyes, but Godzilla simply roars and burrows itself and its last young to safety.

Meanwhile, Hicks congratulations Phillipe, but is told they made a terrible mistake. The cause of the recent attacks was not from Godzilla at all. On cue, Hicks receives a message from Sydney about the giant egg. Venturing to the city, they see a greenhouse-like enclosure that had been built around the egg, with the area evacuated. Realizing the egg is from the mutated insect species, Nick pleads for it to be destroyed. However, the Queen Bitch suddenly emerges to protect it. Her presence is greeted by a familiar roar as Godzilla bursts through the pavement to do battle. The queen gains the upper hand by stinging Godzilla. As its surviving young tries to rush to its aid, the giant insect attacks and appears to kill it with its stinger. Seeing Anna nearby, the Queen Bitch grabs her as well. In an act of vengeance, the adult Godzilla releases its atomic fire breath, destroying the egg. Shrieking, the queen takes flight toward Monster Island, with Anna in its clutches.

Hicks organizes a military rescue, led by fighter jets. While en-route in a helicopter, Hicks gives Nick a note: his marriage has been annulled. The gravity of the news is interrupted by a swarm of mutated insects. The fighter jets engage them, but are overpowered and destroyed. As the copter begins a crash landing, Godzilla wades ashore. As Nick, Phillipe and Hicks scramble for safety, Godzilla attacks the winged insectoids. With the creatures distracted, Nick and Philipple make their way underground in search of Anna while Hicks waits for reinforcements. In the large underground chambers, they find hundreds of starving survivors guarded by insects. Among them is Anna, still alive. Using incinerator grenades, Nick and Phillipe manage to kill the insects and rescue them. While trying to escape, they are suddenly blocked by the Queen Bitch. Ready to strike, the giant insect is interrupted as Godzilla burrows underground after it. This time Godzilla manages to kill the queen, ending its threat.

As Godzilla emerges to the surface, military reinforcements are waiting for it. Prepared to kill Godzilla, Hicks is about to give the order when the human survivors circle themselves around Godzilla to protect it. Leading them is Phillipe, who Hicks sees. The general calls off the attack, to cheers from the survivors. At that instance, the small, injured Godzilla emerges, having survived the queen's attack. Everyone then watches as the pair return peacefully to the ocean...

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